

Weekly Police Beat for the week ending September 9, 2022

Thieves Enter Unlocked Back Door at Night, Take Resident's Car

The damaged car was recovered in DC two days later

On Tuesday, August 16 at approximately 1:00 a.m., thieves entered the unlocked back door of a home in the middle block of Hesketh Street, took a laptop and a backpack—which contained a key fob—from inside the home, and drove off in the residents' SUV.

The residents were unaware of the crime until they prepared to go to work later in the morning and discovered that their car was gone. Officers conducted a neighborhood canvass and learned that video from a neighbor's security camera captured 3 persons getting into the stolen car as the thieves left the scene. The car was recovered unoccupied two days later in Northeast DC with significant damage.

We urge residents to lock all doors and windows every night and whenever they are away from their home and leave exterior lights on in the front and rear of their homes all night long. Further, we strongly recommend that residents install security cameras covering the front door, rear door, and driveway of their homes. Lastly, we ask that residents call the police immediately if they see or hear anything that raises their suspicions.

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Thieves Are Stealing Air Bags from Honda Steering Wheels

Thieves are smashing driver's windows to gain access

On two occasions in August, residents discovered that the steering wheel air bags in their Honda automobiles had been stolen overnight. To make matters worse, the thieves broke the driver's window of each car in order to get to the steering wheel. The first event involved a Honda Accord parked in the unit block of W. Lenox Street, and the second was a Honda CRV (an SUV) parked in the unit block of W. Irving Street.

Thieves target Honda air bags because of the brand's popularity and the value of the air bags on the black market. The recent Honda air bag recall has increased the demand for these items on the market at large.

We recommend that residents who own Honda vehicles park their cars inside a garage whenever possible. When parking in a garage isn't feasible, we suggest parking in a well-lit driveway, preferably near a security camera, and arming the car alarm. Lastly, we urge residents to call the police immediately if they see or hear anything that raises their suspicions.